

National Weather Service



MEDIA ADVISORY

2004-02

February 12, 2004

Weather Spotting Classes to be Offered This Spring

Spotter training courses will be offered this spring. National Weather Service (NWS) personnel will travel to numerous Iowa counties and train Emergency Management Spotters along with NWS spotters and Amateur Radio Spotters. Spotter training courses are hosted by county emergency management coordinators, or designee's. The 2004 spotter training season kicks off on February 17, 2004 in Centerville and will continue through mid April.

In 2004, the Baseline Spotter Presentation has been updated with new material. The Baseline Spotter Presentation will be offered in most counties and is open to the general public. It is a well rounded talk suitable for most spotters from beginner to advanced. An amateur radio representative will often accompany the instructor to answer questions about the central Iowa SKYWARN net. Class length is between 90 and 120 minutes.

An Advanced Spotter Training Presentation is being offered regionally this spring. This course is for those who are interested in mobile spotter techniques. The advanced course is not recommended to those with little or no storm scale meteorological experience.

The spotter training schedule, and course outlines, can be found on the NWS, Des Moines, web site at www.crh.noaa.gov/dmx/training.shtml . Be sure to check it often since it will be updated as classes are scheduled.

We look forward to seeing you at a spotter training class this spring!